

Remarks

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed June 30, 2009. Claims 41, 66, and 67 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 24 and 45-65 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance are requested for the following reasons.

I. Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as failing to show at least one guide surface. This objection is respectfully traversed. Figure 15 illustrates major and minor surfaces 377, 379 of the receptacle walls that function as guide surfaces. Since the drawings do illustrate this claim limitation, removal of the objection is requested.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as failing to show receptacle 14 in Figure 4 and as described at page 5, line 30. Figure 1 includes reference sign 14 that refers to the receptacles 14. Other figures, such as Figure 4, shown the receptacles. Removal of the objection is requested.

II. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 66 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Niepmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,327,155. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and the correctness of the rejection is not conceded. Claim 66 is canceled. Reconsideration is therefore requested.

III. Claim Rejections – Anderson, Duncan, and Fishman

Claims 41 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niepmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,327,155, in view of Duncan et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,459,517, and Buckmaster, U.S. Patent No. 6,045,232. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and the correctness of the rejection is not conceded. Claims 41 and 67 are canceled. Reconsideration is therefore requested.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24 and 45-65 are noted as being allowed. The Examiner's assistance in identifying allowable subject matter is appreciated. All claims are in condition for allowance.

V. Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees as set forth in §§ 38 CFR 1.16 to 1.18 which may be required for entry of these papers or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: July 15, 2009

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